

Remarks/Arguments:

By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification and the Abstract have been amended to place the application in better condition for examination and allowance. Claims 3-4, 6-16, 19-20, 22, and 24 have been amended and claims 21 and 26 have been canceled to avoid multiple dependent claims and otherwise comply with the requirements and standards of U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practice. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and issuance of a first action on the merits are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: Abstract

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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Kathleen Libby